



LOS ANGELES COUNTY REGIONAL PARK AND OPEN SPACE DISTRICT

November 3, 2015

The Honorable Board of Directors
County of Los Angeles
Regional Park and Open Space District
383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration
500 West Temple Street
Los Angeles, California 90012

Dear Directors:

**APPROVE A REVISED PLAN OF EXPENDITURE AND
AN ALTERNATIVE PLAN FOR EXPENDITURE, AND
AWARD GRANTS UNDER THE 2015 COMPETITIVE RIVERS AND STREAMS
AND SANTA MONICA BAY GRANT PROGRAMS
(ALL DISTRICTS) (3 VOTES)**

SUBJECT

Approval of the recommended actions will reallocate an amount not to exceed \$5,161,300 in Competitive Funds, available under the Safe Neighborhood Parks Propositions of 1992 and 1996, and award grants to the grantees and projects listed herein.

IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT THE BOARD:

1. Find the proposed projects categorically exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act for the reasons stated herein and the reasons reflected in the record of the projects.
2. Approve a Revised Plan of Expenditure to fund the projects listed by reallocating an amount not to exceed \$2,749,600 in Competitive funds, pursuant to the Los Angeles County Safe Neighborhood Parks Proposition of 1992.

3. Approve an Alternative Plan of Expenditure to fund the projects listed by reallocating an amount not to exceed \$2,411,700 in Competitive funds, pursuant to the Los Angeles County Safe Neighborhood Parks Proposition of 1996.
4. Authorize the Acting Director of the Department of Parks and Recreation, in his capacity as Acting Director of the Los Angeles County Regional Park and Open Space District, to award grants, in total not to exceed \$5,161,300, to the recipients identified herein when applicable conditions have been met; and to administer the grants as of the date of award and pursuant to guidelines in the Procedural Guide for Specified and Per Parcel Funds Projects.

PURPOSE/JUSTIFICATION OF RECOMMENDED ACTIONS

Approval of the recommended actions will reallocate residual Competitive grant funds from the Safe Neighborhood Parks Propositions of 1992 and 1996 (Propositions A of 1992 and 1996) and award grants under the Los Angeles County Regional Park and Open Space District's (RPOSD) 2015 Competitive Rivers and Streams and Santa Monica Bay Grant Programs, totaling an amount not to exceed \$5,161,300, as follows:

Rivers and Streams Category:

- City of Baldwin Park: Walnut Creek Nature Park Improvement Phase II - \$308,446
- City of Long Beach: DeForest Wetlands Phase II - \$623,600
- Kare Youth League: Kare Park Project - \$750,000
- Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority: Box Canyon Creek Rim of the Valley Corridor Trail - \$290,000
- Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority: Caballero Creek and Los Angeles River Confluence Park - \$300,000
- The Trust For Public Land: Temescal Ranch Acquisition - \$1,000,000
- Watershed Conservation Authority: River Wilderness Park Entry Project - \$997,000

Santa Monica Bay Category:

- City of Agoura Hills: Storm Drain Connector Pipe Screen and Catch Basin Inlet Filter Installation Project - \$125,000
- City of Culver City: Costco Regional Infiltration System Project - \$767,136

It is also recommended that the Acting Director of the Department of Parks and Recreation (Director), in his capacity as Acting Director of the Los Angeles County Regional Park and Open Space District, be authorized to award grants to the grantees and projects listed, and when applicable conditions have been met. Applicable conditions include grantee qualifications, consistency between the projects and requirements of the 1992 and 1996 Proposition, and grantee agreement with California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) requirements for the projects, if applicable. It is further recommended that the Director be authorized to administer the grants pursuant to the Procedural Guide previously approved by the Board.

Implementation of Strategic Plan Goals

The recommended actions further the Board approved County Strategic Plan Goals of Operational Effectiveness/Fiscal Sustainability (Goal 1) by providing recreational activities in the First, Second, Third, Fourth, and Fifth Supervisorial Districts.

FISCAL IMPACT/FINANCING

Sufficient appropriation for the grants, in an amount not to exceed \$5,161,300, is budgeted in RPOSD's Assessment Project Fund, HB4.

FACTS AND PROVISIONS/LEGAL REQUIREMENTS

The funds recommended for reallocation herein are residuals from the Competitive Grant Programs authorized under the 1992 and 1996 Propositions A. The Revised Plan of Expenditure (Revised Plan) and the Alternative Plan of Expenditure (Alternative Plan) are the mechanisms utilized to reallocate unspent Specified Funds pursuant to the 1992 and 1996 Propositions. The Board may utilize the Revised Plan and Alternative Plan to reallocate and award Competitive Funds as well.

On June 2, 2009, the Board approved the Procedural Guide to govern the administration of RPOSD grants. The Procedural Guide will appropriately govern the administration of the recommended additional grants as well.

ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENTATION

All projects funded by RPOSD are required to comply with CEQA as a condition of the grant. The lead agency is responsible for preparing the appropriate environmental documentation for the project. The cities of Baldwin Park, Long Beach, Agoura Hills, and Culver City are the lead agencies for their respective projects. The Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority and the Watershed Conservation Authority are the lead agencies for their respective projects. RPOSD is the lead agency for the Kare Park Project and Temescal Ranch Acquisition Project.

The City of Baldwin Park's proposed Walnut Creek Nature Park Improvement Phase II Project is categorically exempt from CEQA. The project, which consists of installation of playground apparatus, Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) bridge access, irrigation system, and drought tolerant, native landscaping throughout the park, is within certain classes of projects that have been determined not to have a significant effect on the environment in that it meets the criteria set forth in Sections 15303 (d) (e) and 15304 (a) (b) of the State CEQA Guidelines and Classes 3 (a) (b) and 4(a) (c) of the County's Environmental Document Reporting Procedures and Guidelines, Appendix G, because the project involves installation of accessory structures and utility systems, minor alterations in the condition of land, and new landscaping.

The City of Long Beach's proposed DeForest Wetlands Phase II Project is categorically exempt from CEQA. The project, which consists of construction of accessible all-weather trails and a parking lot adjacent to the southern section of the DeForest Wetlands, is within certain classes of projects that have been determined not to have a significant effect on the environment in that it meets the criteria set forth in Sections 4 (a) and 11 (b) of the State CEQA Guidelines and Classes 4 (a) and 11 (a) of the County's Environmental Document Reporting Procedures and Guidelines, Appendix G, because the project involves minor alterations in the condition of land and construction of a small parking lot.

The Kare Youth League proposed Kare Park Project is categorically exempt from CEQA. The project, which consists of conversion of a 13 acre "eyesore" bordering the San Gabriel River bed into a beautiful park with thousands of native and other drought tolerant plants surrounding family-friendly ball fields, a playground, parking, a central plaza, and restrooms, is within certain classes of projects that have been determined not to have a significant effect on the environment in that it meets the criteria set forth in Sections 15303 (d) (e), 15304 (a) (b), and 15311 (b) of the State CEQA Guidelines and Classes 3 (a) (b), 4 (a) (c), and 11 (a) of the County's Environmental Document Reporting Procedures and Guidelines, Appendix G, because the project involves construction of small new facilities, structures, and utility systems; minor alterations in the condition of land; new landscaping; and construction of a small parking lot.

The Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority's proposed Box Canyon Creek Rim of the Valley Corridor Trail Project is categorically exempt from CEQA. The project, which consists of acquisition of an 18.34-acre parcel within Box Canyon containing a portion of Box Canyon Creek and a key portion of the Rim of the Valley Trail that could potentially connect Sage Ranch Park to the Chatsworth Nature Preserve and preserve the wildlife corridor in the area, is within certain classes of projects that have been determined not to have a significant effect on the environment in that it meets the criteria set forth in Section 15325 of the State CEQA Guidelines and Class 25 of the County's Environmental Document Reporting Procedures and Guidelines, Appendix G, because the project involves acquisition of land to preserve existing natural conditions.

The Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority's proposed Caballero Creek and Los Angeles River Confluence Park Project is categorically exempt from CEQA. The project, which consists of conversion of 1.6-acres of the currently fenced and vacant land into a natural, multiple-benefit park with a bioswale, wetland, water play and learning areas, and Best Management Practices for water quality improvements, is within certain classes of projects that have been determined not to have a significant effect on the environment in that it meets the criteria set forth in Sections 15303 (d) (e) and 15304 (b) of the State CEQA Guidelines and Classes 3 (a) (b) and 4 (c) of the County's Environmental Document Reporting Procedures and Guidelines, Appendix G, because the project involves construction of small new facilities, structures, and utility systems and new landscaping.

The Trust For Public Land's proposed Temescal Ranch Acquisition Project is categorically exempt from CEQA. The project, which consists of acquisition of 864.3 acres of oak woodland, riparian habitat, and streams that feed the Santa Clara River, all of which is part of the Los Angeles County Santa Felicia Significant Ecological Area, is within certain classes of projects that have been determined not to have a significant effect on the environment in that it meets the criteria set forth in Section 15325 of the State CEQA Guidelines and Class 25 of the County's Environmental Document Reporting Procedures and Guidelines, Appendix G, because the project involves acquisition of land to preserve existing natural conditions.

The Watershed Conservation Authority's proposed River Wilderness Park Entry Project is categorically exempt from CEQA. The project, which consists of installation of the River Wilderness Park Entry, including the interactive children's nature play area and multi-use pavilion, is within certain classes of projects that have been determined not to have a significant effect on the environment in that it meets the criteria set forth in Section 15303 (d) of the State CEQA Guidelines and Class 3 (b) of the County's Environmental Document Reporting Procedures and Guidelines, Appendix G, because the project involves construction of small new facilities and structures.

The City of Agoura Hills' proposed Storm Drain Connector Pipe Screen and Catch Basin Inlet Filter Installation Project is categorically exempt from CEQA. The project, which consists of installation of a storm drain connector pipe screen and catch basin inlet filtration technology to various storm drain inlets to improve water quality and reduce the amount of pollutants to the Santa Monica Bay, is within certain classes of projects that have been determined not to have a significant effect on the environment in that it meets the criteria set forth in Section 15303 (d) of the State CEQA Guidelines and Class 3 (a) of the County's Environmental Document Reporting Procedures and Guidelines, Appendix G, because the project involves installation of water main, sewer, and other utility systems.

The City of Culver City's proposed Costco Regional Infiltration System Project is categorically exempt from CEQA. The project, which consists of construction of two infiltration galleries in Costco and Culver City's right-of-ways to treat and infiltrate the 85th percentile storm's runoff from a drainage area of 42 acres, is within certain classes of projects that have been determined not to have a significant effect on the environment in that it meets the criteria set forth in Section 15303 (d) of the State CEQA Guidelines and Class 3 (a) (q) of the County's Environmental Document Reporting Procedures and Guidelines, Appendix G, because the project involves construction of water main, sewer, and other utility systems, and storm drain construction to alleviate local drainage problems in developed urban areas.

The proposed projects above will not involve the removal of healthy, mature, and scenic trees. Additionally, the proposed projects are not in a sensitive environment, and there are no cumulative impacts, unusual circumstances, or other limiting factors that would make the exemption inapplicable based on the proposed projects' records.

CONTRACTING PROCESS

Grant Project Agreements will be entered into and administered under authority delegated to the Director and pursuant to the Procedural Guide approved by the Board in 2009. The Grant Project Agreements will be approved as to form by County Counsel.

IMPACT ON CURRENT SERVICES (OR PROJECTS)

These actions will have no impact on any other projects funded through RPOSD, but are required so that grantees may proceed with their respective projects throughout the County, if all applicable conditions are met.

CONCLUSION

Please instruct the Acting Executive Officer - Clerk of the Board to return one adopted copy of this action to the Chief Executive Office, Capital Programs Division; and to the Department of Parks and Recreation.

Respectfully submitted,



JOHN WICKER
Acting Director

JW:JB:WRO:tb

Attachment

c: Chief Executive Officer
Interim County Counsel
Acting Executive Officer, Board of Supervisors

Attachment I

Funding Sections Assignments by Project

Funding Sections Assignments by Project

Agency Funding Allocation	Funding Amount	Grantee	Project	Supervisory District
Rivers and Streams Category				
8. a. 3. A.	308,446.00	City of Baldwin Park	Walnut Creek Nature Park Improvement Phase II	1
	308,446.00			
8. a. 3. A.	31,037.60	City of Long Beach	DeForest Wetlands Phase II	4
8. a. 3. C.	446,901.42			
8. a. 3. D.	145,660.98			
	623,600.00			
8. a. 3. D.	411,854.52	Kare Youth League	Kare Park Project	1
8. a. 3. E.	338,145.48			
	750,000.00			
8. a. 3. E.	68,846.79	Mountians Recreation and Conservation Authority	Box Canyon Creek Rim of the Valley Corridor Trail Project	5
8. a. 4	221,153.21			
	290,000.00			
8. a. 4	300,000.00	Mountians Recreation and Conservation Authority	Caballero Creek and Los Angeles River Confluence Park Project	3
	300,000.00			
8. a. 4	149,083.79	Trust for Public Land	Temescal Ranch Acquisition Project	5
3. a. 2	850,916.21			
	1,000,000.00			
3. a. 2	108,483.59	Watershed Conservation Authority	River Wilderness Park Entry Project	1
3. a. 3	888,516.65			
	997,000.24			
Santa Monica Bay Category				
8. a. 6	125,000.00	City of Agoura Hills	Storm Drain Connector Pipe Screen and Catch Basin Inlet Filter Installation Project	3
	125,000.00			
8. a. 6	203,370.26	City of Culver City	Costco Regional Infiltration System Project	2
3. a. 4	563,766.09			
	767,136.35			
Grand Total:	5,161,182.59			